



**US Army Corps
of Engineers®**
New York District

Hudson River, Athens, New York Navigation Project

FACT SHEET

DESCRIPTION: The project area is located on the Hudson River in Athens, New York. Athens is on the west bank of the river and separated from the main Hudson River channel by Middle Ground Flats. Commercial activities in Athens require a deeper channel. Currently barges entering Athens cannot be fully loaded due to the existing depths in the Hudson River.

AUTHORIZATION/PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The project was authorized in Section 110 of the Energy and Water Development Appropriations Act of 1997. The language called for the design and construction of a 300-foot wide channel to a depth of 24 feet (mean low water), extending from the existing Federal Channel in the vicinity of the Hudson City Light to the north dock at Union Street, Athens, New York. The project is cost shared between the Federal Government and the non-Federal Sponsor in accordance with the cost sharing stipulated in the Water Resources Development Act of 1986.

The design effort will involve surveying, sediment sampling and testing, hydraulic modeling, economic analysis and environmental investigation. The design analysis will determine the appropriate channel alignment, width, depth and cost. Coordination meetings will be conducted with the beneficiaries, Athens, Greene County and New York State. Other activities in the area include the dredging of a ferry slip and boat launch by the County and State. The potential exists for including these features in the overall project. The feasibility of expanding the project to include environmental restoration and enhancement will also be examined.

STATUS: Funds totaling \$300,000 were allocated in 1997 to prepare an initial plan. The Project Viability Report and the Project Management Plan (PMP) outlining the design and construction efforts have been completed. The Non-Federal sponsor is the Greene County Industrial Development Agency. A survey of the river has been completed and sediment samples have been taken for chemical testing and geotechnical purposes. The initial plan and preliminary project cost have also been developed. The economic feasibility has been completed. The Design Agreement was executed in August 2000, between the Corps of Engineers and the Greene County Industrial Development Agency.

Funds for design and construction totaling \$8,700,000 were appropriated in Fiscal Year 1998 and \$3,000,000 in Fiscal Year 1999. A portion of the funds will be used to prepare the design, plans and specifications. The overall design effort would be completed after the issuing of a design report and environmental document for public circulation. A Project Cooperation Agreement for the construction of the project will be negotiated with the Non-Federal sponsor and executed after the report is approved. The design and environmental investigation work is continuing. The site surveys, for bird, soil and archeological, of the site for the dredge material, Houghtaling Island, have been completed. The final benthic sampling of the proposed channel has been completed. A public scoping meeting was held May 2002 as part of the development of the Environmental Impact Statement.

PROJECT COST:

Estimated Federal Cost	\$12,000,000
Estimated Non-Federal Cost	\$9,800,000
<hr/>	
Total	\$21,800,000

CONTACT: Mr. Douglas Leite, Project Manager, mailto: douglas.leite@usace.army.mil tel: 212-264-4420
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New York District
26 Federal Plaza, New York, NY 10278